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High School Feedback Report aims to improve college-going rates

(Frankfort, KY.)--The Council on Postsecondary Education released the 2002 Kentucky High School Feedback report at the Council's meeting earlier today. The biennial report uses college enrollment data to help educators assess the preparation levels of high school graduates who took the ACT for postsecondary work.

The goal of the report is to provide information to continue improving the college-going rates and student success in college.

Designed in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Education and produced by ACT, Inc., the report includes 15,343 spring 2002 graduates who took the ACT and enrolled in a Kentucky public university, two-year college, or a participating independent institution in fall 2002.

The report helps high school and district educators identify the following:

- How well their students performed on the ACT in comparison to that of their peers;
- The postsecondary institutions their graduates attended;
- Their graduates' grade point average in their first year of college; and
- The percentage of students from their high school who returned for a second year of college.

"This report provides valuable information that educators can use to assess attendance, enrollment, and performance patterns," stated Tom Layzell, Council president.

"We are pleased to partner with KDE on several P-16 initiatives to improve college readiness and college-going rates," added Layzell.

"The High School Feedback Report is an important compilation of data for school and district administrators," said Kentucky Education Commissioner Gene Wilhoit. "The information also is valuable to the Kentucky Board of Education and the Department of Education as we work to restructure the middle and high school experience for our students so that they have sound preparation for postsecondary opportunities."

The report does not include the performance of high school graduates who did not take the ACT, enrolled in an out-of-state college, or enrolled in a non-participating Kentucky postsecondary institution. Only two independent institutions—Alice Lloyd College and Pikeville College—participated in the report. The Council hopes to increase participation with the 2004 report which will be issued later this year.

Reports are available for all Kentucky high schools where more than four graduates took the ACT and enrolled in a participating Kentucky college. Over 200 reports were generated. District comparison information is available only for public high schools. Prior year reports may be used to assess overall trends but should not be considered equivalent historical comparisons because of recent data refinements and changing lists of participating institutions.

The 2002 High School Feedback Reports are available on the Council's Web site at <http://apps.cpe.ky.gov/hsfb2002/index.htm>. A tutorial is also available at the Web link.